

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Forrest L. Pierson, Jr.

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned

Serial No.: Not Assigned

Art Unit: Not Assigned

Filed: July 24, 2003

Examiner: Not Assigned

Title: Method and System for Efficiently Passing the Silence or Unused Status of a DSO  
Channel Through a DsO Switch Matrix and a Data Switch

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly and independently considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the filing date of the application and prior to issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, therefore, no fee is due.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), no copy of any patent, publication, pending U.S. application or other information listed in this information disclosure statement is required to be provided, as the information was previously submitted to, or cited by, the Office in earlier Application No. 09/464,786, filed December 17, 1999.

Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is in the English language.

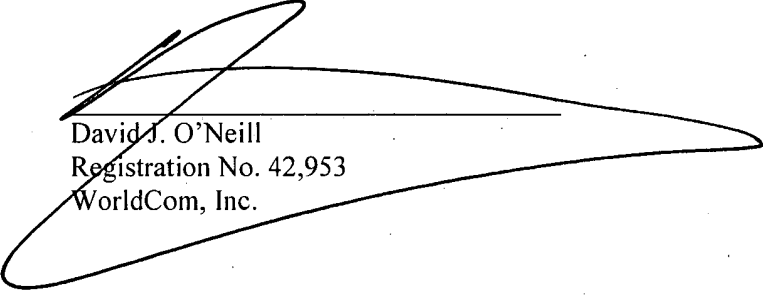
It is respectfully requested that the documents cited in this Information Disclosure Statement be independently considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 13-2491 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

7/24/03

  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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**Complete if Known**

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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Application Number     | Not Assigned            |
| Filing Date            | July 24, 2003           |
| First Named Inventor   | Forrest L. Pierson, Jr. |
| Art Unit               | Not Assigned            |
| Examiner Name          | Not Assigned            |
| Attorney Docket Number | RIC99022C1              |

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                    |                       | US- 5,570,361   | 10/1996                        | Norizuki et al.                                    |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,038,231   | 03/2000                        | Dolby et al.                                       |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,144,658   | 11/2000                        | Lebizay et al.                                     |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,504,840   | 01/2003                        | Bostrom et al.                                     |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,529,512   | 03/2003                        | Galand et al.                                      |   |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
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Examiner  
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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